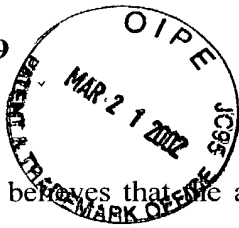


11321-P012USD9

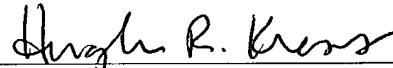
**PATENT**

IN RE: APPLICATION OF SMALLEY et al.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that the application as a whole is in proper form and condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the application may be placed in even better condition for allowance, he /she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number noted below. Alternatively, or in addition, if the Examiner believes that an Examiner interview would be beneficial, the Examiner is invited to note that the undersigned has ready access to the videoconferencing facilities of the South Central Intellectual Property Partnership at Rice University in Houston, Texas. The inventors and the undersigned would welcome the opportunity to use those facilities to clarify any issues deemed to remain unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11-MAR-2002

Hugh R. Kress, Esq.

Reg. No. 36,574

Winstead Sechrest & Minick P.C.

2400 Bank One Center

910 Travis Street

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 650-2714 (voice)

(713) 650-2400 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR ASSIGNEE

AUSTIN_1\185294\1
11321-P012USD9 - 03/09/2002**RECEIVED**
MAR 25 2002
TC 1700